9960 autorickshaw drivers were_ prosecuted for refusal to carry passengers and 1655 for misbehaviour and overcharging. Similarly, 399 taxies were prosecuted for refusal to carry passengers aid 517 for misbehaviour and overcharging. In addition 159 driving licences were suspended and action was taken lo suspend permits in 247 cases. In addition the following measures have been taken:—

(1) Use of decoy passengers lo check refusal from time to time.

(2) Introduction of new system of stamping and punching driving licences according to which a driving licence niay be suspended after ihey are found committing three traffic violations, j

Ci) Recently, a new scheme of prepaid taxi service has been introduced at Palam Airport to avoid such complaints from the general public and also to Ijelp foreigners who visit India. This service is being availed of by most of the visitors to Palam Airport and appreciated by all.

(4) The traffic Police has taken special measures at Railway Stations, New Delhi. Delhi Main and Nizamuddin by introducing 'Q' of the TSRs and taxies so that the passengers arriving there get the taxies and TSRs without any difficulties/harassments. Besides this revised fare charts are also being distributed amongst the passengers in order to avoid overcharging.

PoBcy for appointment agentis in lieu of G.S.A.

1265. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: WiU the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several in-tematSonal airlines ope^^ling IQ U.S.A. follow open policy for working as agents *io* lieu of appointing G.S.A,, if so. ihe details thereof;

(b) whether Government propose to adc^t this policy in case of Air India also, and do away with the practice of appoint ing G.S.A.; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) According to lATA definition, a Genera] Sales Agent is one who procures business exclusively for the appointing carrier in a single country or territory as deilned in the General Sales Agreements contract. The Government are not aware of any international airline operating in USA which, works 'I-; an Agent or a General Sales Agent for another airline.

(b) Air-India do not have a General Sales Agents at any point in the U.S.A.

(c) Does not arise.

Leasing of cargo aircraft and purchasing of Boeing 747

1266. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that Air India has recently entered into two contracts viz., one relating to the lease of three cargo aircraft and other involving the purchase of a Boeing 747 Jumbo jet to replace 'KanLshka';

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether the contract was referred to the Air India Board of Directors for its approval;

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor; and

(e) the loss incurred by Air India due to delay in negotiating the contracts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) One June 15, 1985, Air India concluded an Aircraft Lease Agreement with Evergreen International Airlines for 'he wet lease of freighter aircraft with effect fromi July 1, 1985 as follows:—

(1) One DC-8-63F aircraft for a period of 2-1- years.

(2) One DC-8-73F aircraft for a period of two years with the option to extend the cor.tract for a further period of otie yeur on the same terms and conditions. The agreement for the OC.-8-73F had a provision for the possible substitution of the same with a Boeing 747 Freigliler. Accordingly, the Boeing 747 Freighter aircraft has been substituted in place of the DC-8-73F aircraft with effect from April 6,' 1986.

Air India has also been leasing lL-76 capacity from Aeroflot for its freighter operations since April 1982.

As regards the replacement of Boeing 747 Kanlshka aircraft which was lost in an accident in June 1985, the Air India Board has recently, approved the invest ment proposal for acquisition of a Boeing 747 SP aircraft. As no aircraft of this category, out of the offers received, has yet been selected, the question of execut ing a purchase agreement for this purpose, has not arisen,

(c) and (d) It was not necessary for the Management to obtain the approval of the Board of Directors of Air India for the matter relating to the finalisation of the agreement for wet leasing of the freighter aircraft, as this was withlii the competence of the Management, The approval of the Government was, however, obtained by the Management before cxe-ci^ting the agreement.

(e) The earlier contract for the wei lease of freighter aircraft which was finalised with National Airlines expired in March, *\9%5*. This arrangement with National Airlines was. however, extended for a further period of three months and as such, there was no losj of revenue, on this account.

Famine of X-ray films in NDMC hospitals

1267. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item which appeared in the 'Hindustan Tim£s' of 22nd April, 1986 with the caption 'NDMC koi^jtate facing famine of X-ray films';

(b) if so, what are '^ deitails i« *is regard;

(c) what are the reasons for the sfaortage of X-ray films in NDMC hospitals;

(d) the approximate number of ,i<itient-daliy affected by this shortage-,

(e) the name of the film which supplies X-ray films to NDMC hoipitals; and

(0 vvhat are the reiisons for not &uppl\ ing the X-ray films to the NDMC lio pitals and what action ' has been taken against the persons responsible for the lapse?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) The Government is aware of the news iteia.

Po) to (d) NDMC have informed that 'there was no shortage of X-ray films in the NDMC Hospital.

(e) 1. Hindustan Photo Films Manufac turing Co. Ltd.

2. Agfa-Gevaret India Ltd.

(f) Does not arise in view of answer to *(h),* (c) arid (d) above.

Quantum of monetary incentive for iijteriK-sation in Ctiandigart

1268. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the quantum of monetary in centive awarded to a person undergoing sterilisation;

(b) wheiber it is a fact that receaitly this amount has been substantialy reduc ed in Union Territory of Chandigarb;

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor, and

(d) whether it is also a fact that there is ;, decline in the number of people opting for sterilisation?